

Reading & Northern Railroad celebrates its 25th year in business

September 23, 2008. Port Clinton, PA

Reading, Blue Mountain & Northern Railroad today celebrated 25 years of providing rail freight service to northeastern Pennsylvania.

Andrew Muller, Jr., CEO and Chairman of Reading, Blue Mountain & Northern Railroad, hosted a party this past Saturday to celebrate the event. Over 500 invited guests showed up in Port Clinton for a day of festivities that included music, food, and free rides in the company's vintage coaches pulled by its newly restored steam engine, No. 425.

Numerous public officials joined Muller in celebrating this momentous occasion. Congressman Tim Holden (D-PA) presented Muller a copy of a Congressional Citation honoring the company. Senators Michael O'Pake (D-Berks) and James Rhoades (R-Berks/Carbon/Schuylkill) presented Muller with a copy of a resolution from the Pennsylvania State Senate that was also sponsored by Senator Lisa Baker (R-Luzerne/Wyoming). State Representatives David Argall (R-Berks/ Schuylkill) presented Muller with a citation from the State House of Representatives that was co-sponsored by Representative Keith McCall (D-Carbon). Representative Mike Carroll (D-Luzerne) also spoke at the event congratulating Muller and his staff for their accomplishments.

Following the speeches, Wayne Michel, president, and Beverly Hess, Director of Employee Relations, gave Muller and his wife Carol a framed Smithsonian Natural History photo as a gift from the over 100 employees of the Reading & Northern and its sister company, the Lehigh Gorge Scenic Railway.

Formed by Muller in 1983, the railroad began as an operator of a 13-mile shortline owned by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Since then it has expanded significantly through numerous acquisitions. Today, it operates over 310 miles of railroad from Reading north through the Pennsylvania anthracite counties and northwest to Scranton until its terminus at Mehoopany where it serves Procter & Gamble's largest manufacturing facility in the world. Reading & Northern Railroad is now the largest privately owned railroad in Pennsylvania operating in eight eastern counties.



Dignitaries applauding Andy Muller's accomplishments at Reading & Northern's 25th Anniversary Celebration on Saturday, September 20, 2008 in Port Clinton. (L - R): Rep. Mike Carroll; Jack Shoustal, Coyne Chemical - Eagle Division; Rep. David Argall; Andy Muller, Jr. - Chairman/CEO RBMN; Sen. Michael O'Pake; Wayne Michel, President RBMN; Congressman Tim Holden, and Sen. James Rhoades.